

# NASA Best Project: Human Research Facility Rack 2



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Project Management Shared Experience Program 6  
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# Overview

- The purpose of the Human Research Facility (HRF) is to provide an on-orbit laboratory for conducting in-flight research experiments to study human physiological, behavioral, and chemical changes induced by spaceflight.
- Data gathered will provide insight into the adaptation of crewmembers to ensure crew health and performance for future exploration and return to Earth.
- The HRF is the first ISS Facility Class Payload
  - HRF Rack 1 launched March 8, 2001, on STS-102/Flight 5A.1
  - HRF Rack 2 to launch on STS-114/Flight ULF 1 in March 2003

# HRF Rack 2

**Pulmonary  
Function System** →

**Rack 2  
Workstation** →

**Mass  
Measurement  
Device** →



← **Refrigerated  
Centrifuge**

# HRF Rack 2 Building Blocks

- Develop Components
  - Outfitted (Empty) Rack 2
  - Pulmonary Function System (PFS)
  - Rack 2 Workstation (R2WS)
  - Refrigerated Centrifuge
  - Space Linear Acceleration Mass Measurement Device (SLAMMD)
  - Stowage
- Integrate and Test
- Complete Verification

# Outfitted Rack 2



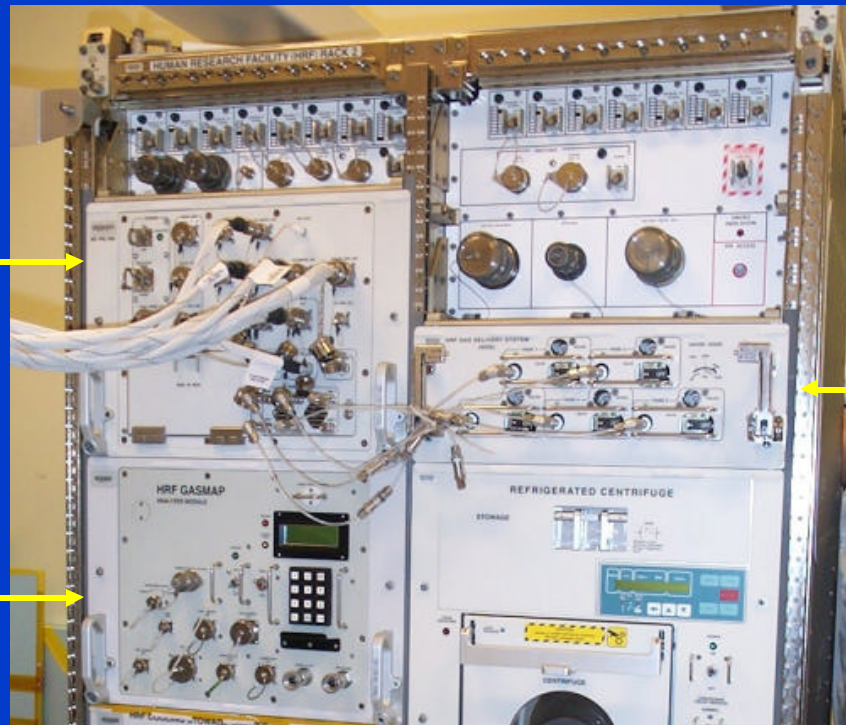
- Provides structural, power, thermal, command and data handling (C&DH), and communication and tracking (C&T) interfaces between the HRF and US Lab
- Empty Flight Rack 2 fabricated by MSFC/Boeing and received August 16, 2001
- Opportunities for Success
  - Receipt of rack from non-HRF group
  - Modifications to facilitate integration and operations
    - Acoustic abatement
    - Bracket installation and modification
    - Labeling

# Pulmonary Function System (PFS)

- A collaborative development between ESA and NASA in pulmonary physiology instrumentation
- Opportunities for Success
  - Schedule and technical coordination

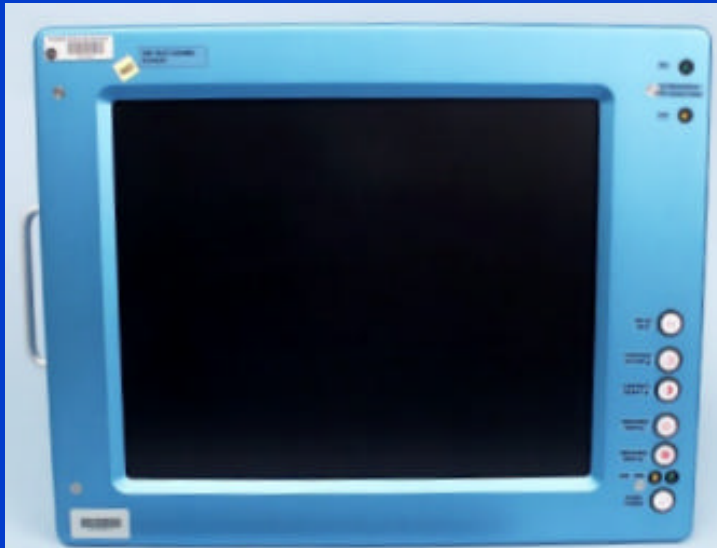
ESA - Pulmonary  
Function Module  
(PFM) /  
Photoacoustic  
Analyzer Module  
(PAM)

NASA - Gas  
Analyzer System  
for Metabolic  
Analysis  
Physiology  
(GASMAP)



NASA - Gas  
Delivery System  
(GDS)

# Rack 2 Workstation (R2WS)



- High-end computer to process, collect and synchronize mass quantities of data
- Opportunities for Success
  - Integration of commercial-off-the-shelf computer components
  - Flexible mass storage – SCSI, PCMCIA, and IDE drives
  - Software compatibility



# Refrigerated Centrifuge

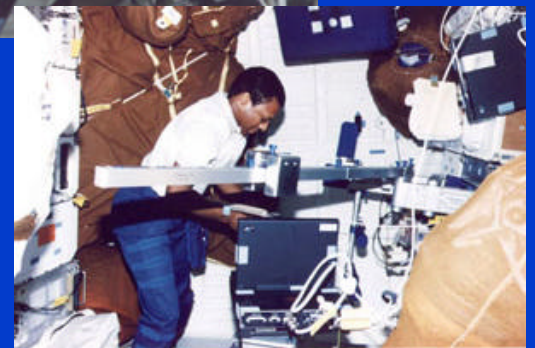
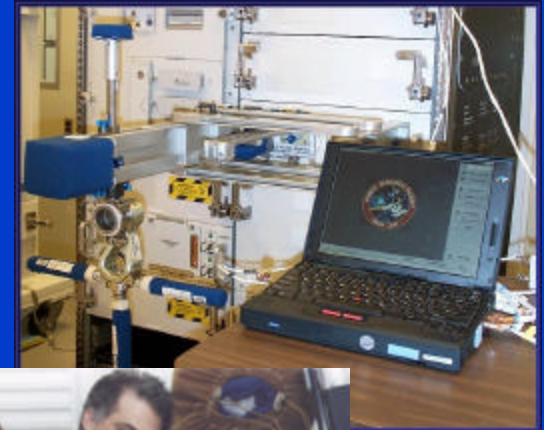


- Mechanical device to separate biological substances of differing densities
- Maintains a rotor chamber temperature of +4 °C
- Opportunities for Success
  - Significant technical development of an oil-free compressor
  - Custom-built power supply

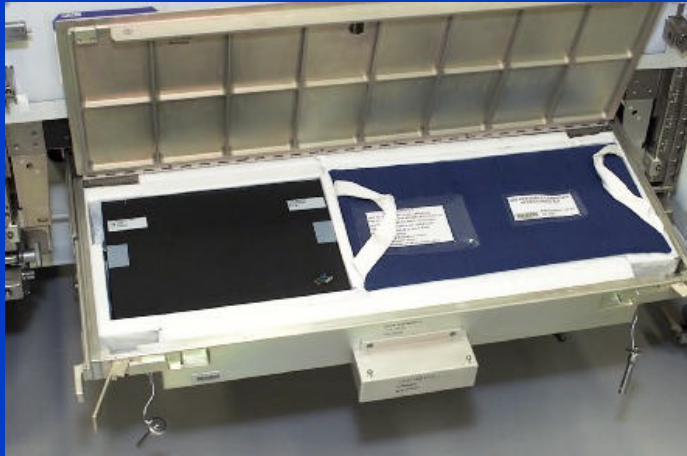


# Space Linear Acceleration Mass Measurement Device (SLAMMD)

- Measures the on-orbit mass of humans from 90 to 240 lbs within 0.5 lbs
- Opportunities for Success
  - $\mu$ g-dependent design
    - Mir
    - Detailed Test Objective STS-89
  - Accuracy and precision
    - Unique software
    - On-orbit calibration
  - Component selection and integration
    - No active air exchange
    - Redundancy of all key components



# Stowage



- System of drawers, kits, and foam to stow HRF component accessories
  - 5 4 Panel Unit (PU) International Subrack Interface Standard (ISIS) Stowage Drawers
  - 2ea Cooling Stowage Drawers
  - 2ea 8PU Stowage Drawers
  - 1ea Rack Utility Drawer, at base of rack
- Opportunities for Success
  - Receipt of drawers and stowage from HRF and non-HRF groups
  - Stowage layouts

# HRF Rack 2

683-46051-4



**Empty Rack**

**Certified** by Boeing  
EXPRESS/MSFC  
through FCA/PCA

SEG46118352-301



**Outfitted Rack**

**Certified** at JSC  
through ADP/GCAR  
Process

**Outfitted Rack**



**Instruments**

**Instruments**

**Certified** at JSC  
through ADP/GCAR  
Process

SEG46118353-301



**Integrated Rack**

No Unique Certification  
Package  
**Verified** via UPVP Process

# Integrate and Test

- Each HRF Rack 2 component completes design, drawings, fabrication, assembly, acceptance and certification testing, and verification data packages
- Component hardware and software delivered to the Launch Package Integration Team for software integration and system testing
  - Utilize the Payload Rack Checkout Unit (PRCU) provided by MSFC/Boeing
  - Mechanical, power, thermal, C&DH, C&T, and science verification testing
- Opportunities for Success
  - Operation of PRCU at JSC
  - Tracking and coordination of hardware and software
  - Test plans and procedures
  - Delivery for flight



# HRF On-Orbit

- Once on-orbit and installed, HRF Rack 2 will be reconfigured by exchanging instruments with HRF Rack 1, creating configurations Flight Rack 1A and 2A. The two new configurations and launch configuration are shown below:

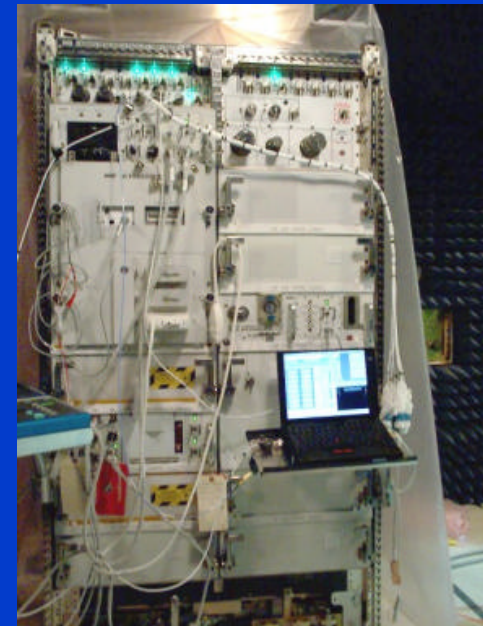
FR2 Launch



FR2A On-Orbit



FR1A On-orbit



# Complete Verification

- HRF requirements to the ISS are identified in interface requirement documents and payload verification plans approved by the ISS Payloads Office
- With the launch of HRF Rack 2, verification was required of both on-orbit rack configurations. Data required at L-7.5, L-3.5, and L-3 months.
  - Rack 1A ISS Verification = 326 requirements
  - Rack 2/2A ISS Verification = 375 requirements
- Opportunities for Success
  - Ensuring tests and analyses meet requirements
  - Processing waivers and exceptions
  - Volume of paperwork

# HRF Rack 2



- HRF Rack 2 is a product of:
  - Successful technical development
  - Resolution of issues with HRF and non-HRF provided systems
  - Significant schedule and technical coordination
  - Communication
  - Meeting customer requirements
    - Science community
    - Medical community
    - ISS Program



# “Best Project” Qualities

- TEAM!
- Incorporate Lessons Learned
- Cost Effective Solutions
- Proactive Approach
- Ability to React, Replan, and Implement
- Innovative Thinking
- Perseverance
- Attitude of Ownership and Responsibility
- Communicate, Communicate, Communicate
- TEAM – Driven to succeed and does!

# HRF Rack 2 Team

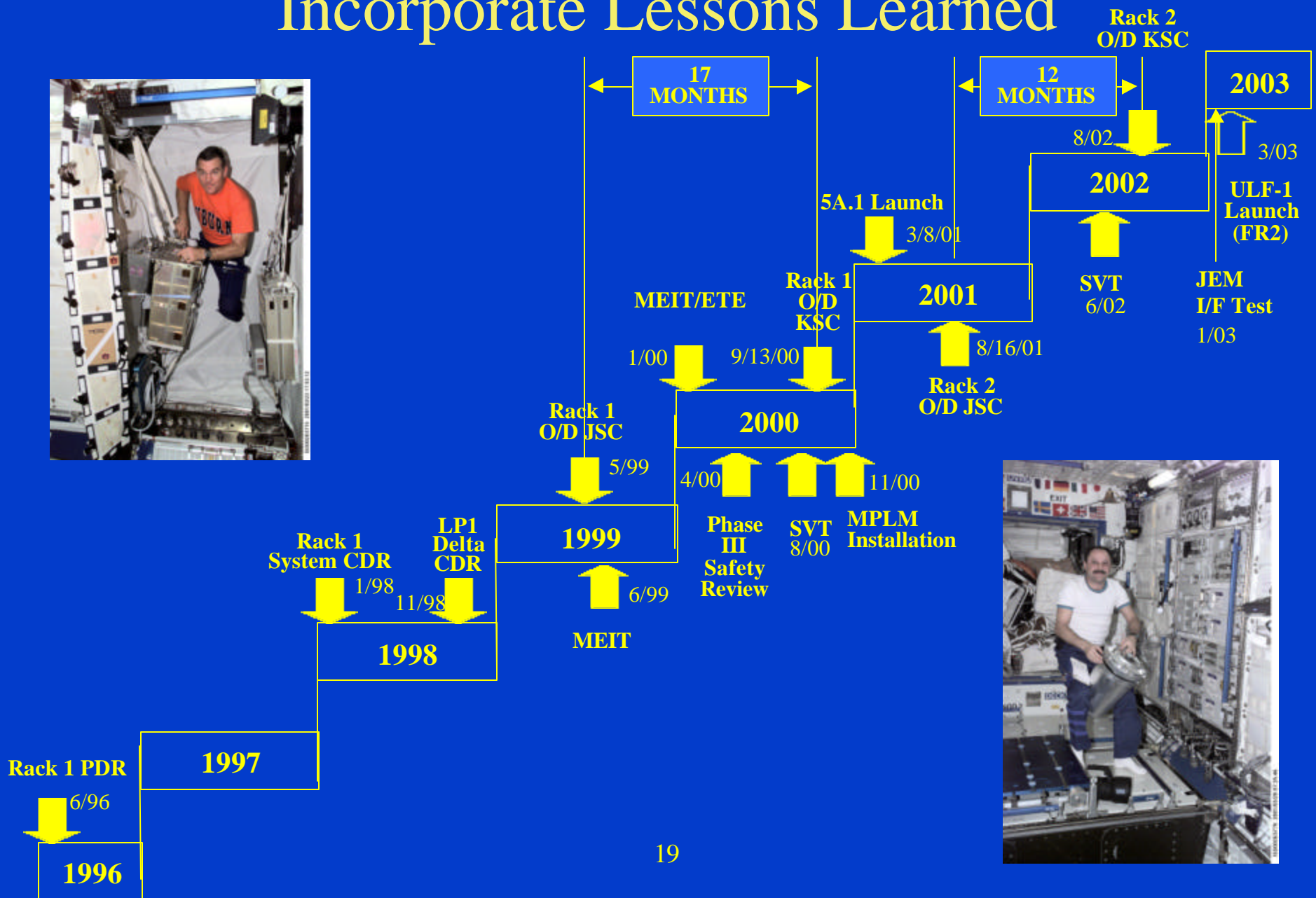


# Project Management



- LM PM - Jerry McDonald
- Rack 2 - Elton Witt
- Integration - Kevin Upham, Margaret Klee
- Verification – Jim Thompson
- PFS - Clifton Amberboy, John Ives, Mete Yalcinkaya
- R2WS – Keith Tucker
- RC - Sharon Campana
- SLAMMD -Geoffrey Coen
- Stowage - Dan Barineau

# Incorporate Lessons Learned





# Cost Effective Solutions



- Developed a second training rack in less than four months to begin crew training
- Solution used mechanical structure of existing ground rack and a switching system for dual use of the Rack Interface Controller

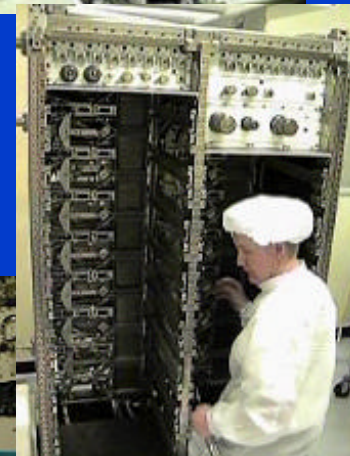
# Proactive Approach



- **The PFS required considerable schedule and technical coordination, regardless of ESA or NASA-provided. Team worked to incorporate software, hardware, and label changes prior to delivery.**

# Ability to React, Replan, and Implement

- Workarounds required to accommodate significant disruptions to the integration schedule
  - Major upgrades in the US Lab simulation systems
  - Troubleshooting of non-HRF provided systems
  - Investigation and successful resolution of Rack 1 in-flight anomalies
- Integration schedule annotated with daily revision letters





# Innovative Thinking



- Utilize custom foam for long-term stowage
- Generic drawer liners implemented for HRF Rack 2 (and Rack 1) to minimize wasted volume and allow for flexibility to reconfigure contents
- Crew continuously compliments HRF stowage during reviews

# Perseverance

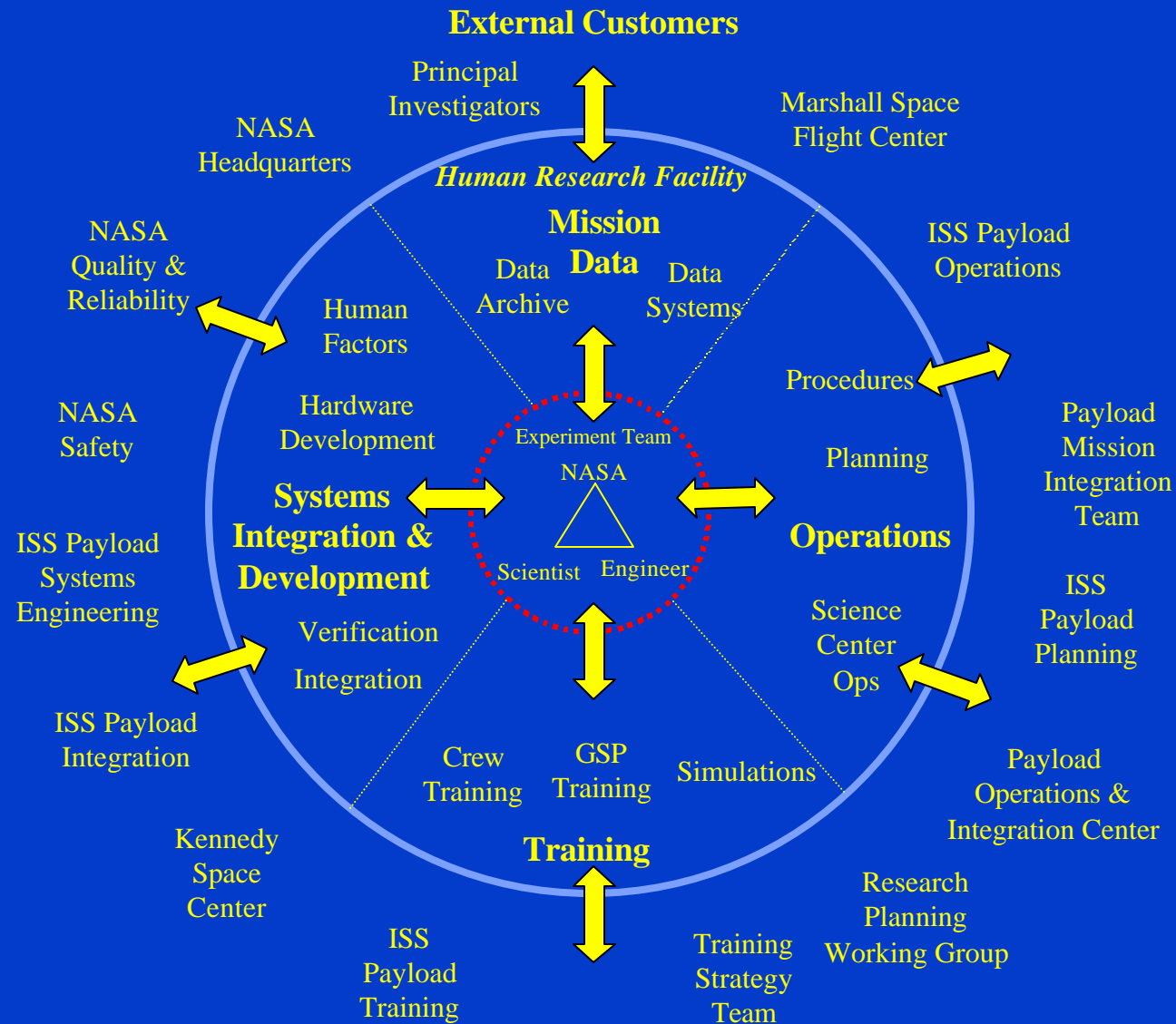
- Project experienced several technical obstacles with the power supply and compressor
- Implemented recovery plan of a backup compressor design but did not for the power supply
- Still part of HRF Rack 2 because of technical expertise and team motivation



# Attitude of Ownership and Responsibility

- Accept NASA and LM systems with associated bureaucracy and work within those processes. Any outside-HRF group viewed as a “customer.”
- Many members accepted much larger tasks and more responsibility than in the previous flight rack.
- Team culture – forgiveness of mistakes, coordination within and outside project, focus on priorities.
- The team demonstrated an unwavering commitment to project success.
- From managers to technicians to administrative staff - across all tasks - the team truly worked as an ensemble.
- The hallmark of the HRF Rack 2 project was to prevent crises and overcome obstacles and problems with the efficiency and confidence of a highly focused and dedicated team.

# Communicate, Communicate, Communicate





# HRF Rack 2 Team



Best Team!